

STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION OFFICE OF MEDIA RELATIONS

245 MCKEE ROAD DOVER, DELAWARE 19904 Telephone: (302) 739-5601 Fax: (302) 739-8220

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 14, 2005

Contact: Beth Welch

Phone: 302-739-5601 ext. 232

Pager: 302-474-0511

Press Release

Inmates Revitalize Elsmere Railroad Yard Area in Terrible Disrepair

ELSMERE - A group of Delaware inmates is taking part in a week-long community service project in the city of Elsmere.

Inmates from the Webb Correctional Facility in Prices Corner are spending the week in Elsmere tackling various refurbishment and clean-up projects.

Monday, the inmates revitalized the Elsmere Railroad Yard on Taramack Avenue. Inmates pulled several truckloads of tree limbs, brush, weeds, garbage and other debris that had overrun the site. Some of the debris retrieved included tires, appliances and wood.

The rest of the week, inmates will be taking part in various other clean-up projects in the city.

Community service work is an essential part of offender rehabilitation. In Fiscal Year 2004, inmates across Delaware performed more than 200,000 hours of community service at a savings of more than \$1 million to Delaware taxpayers. Inmates have performed community service for churches, community groups, social service organizations, schools, state parks and town governments.

"Working in the community helps the inmate in many ways," says Webb Correctional Facility Deputy Warden Larry McGuigan. "They learn good work ethics like how to get up in the morning. They learn the value of an honest day's labor - - and how to take pride in their work and in a community."

Community service projects instill in inmates good work ethics and disciplines. Some community service projects also teach inmates a skill that can be transferred back to the community once they're released from incarceration.